SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

Contact: David L. Yowell
(918) 743-1365

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MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT (Month of October, 1979)

The total number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters continued to increase during October. The October total, 436, represents a net increase of four land crews over the previous month. According to the Society of Exploration Geophysicists which conducts the monthly survey, the October total is an increase of 103 crews and vessels in the past two years.

The October total (436) represents an increase of 1% over last month, a 17% increase over October, 1978, a 32% increase over October, 1977, a 63% increase over October, 1976, a 62% increase over October, 1975, and a gain of 36% over the same month in 1974.

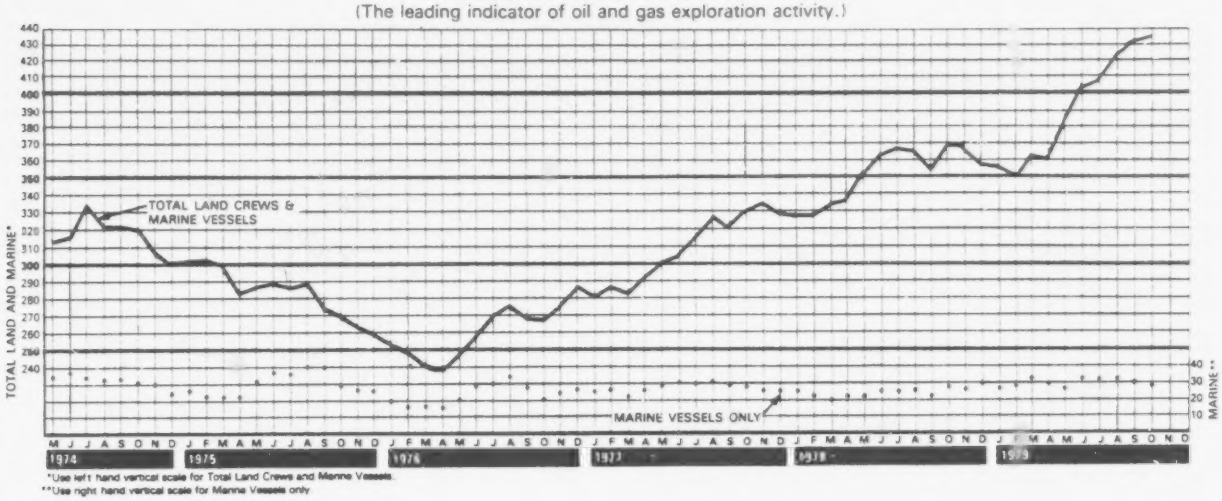
During October, five contractors were operating five land crews and one marine vessel on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month 436	Last Month 433	Oct. '78 371	Oct. '77 330	Oct. '76 267	Oct. '75 270	Oct. 74 320

	LAND CREWS							MARINE VESSELS						
	This Month	Last Month	Oct. '78	Oct. '77	Oct. '76	Oct. '75	Oct. '74	This Month	Last Month	Oct. '78	Oct. '77	Oct. '76	Oct. '75	Oct. '74
56 Contr's:	368	364	305	268	212	202	247	24	24	23	23	17	24	25
10 Oil Co's:	39	39	37	34	34	39	41	4	4	4	4	4	5	7
1 Gov't.:	0	0	0	0	--	--	--	1	2	2	1	--	--	--
Totals:	407	403	342	302	246	241	288	29	30	29	28	21	29	32

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)

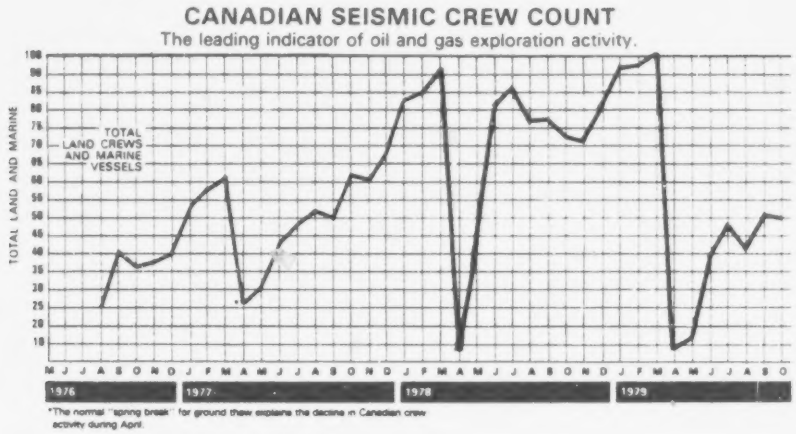


*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

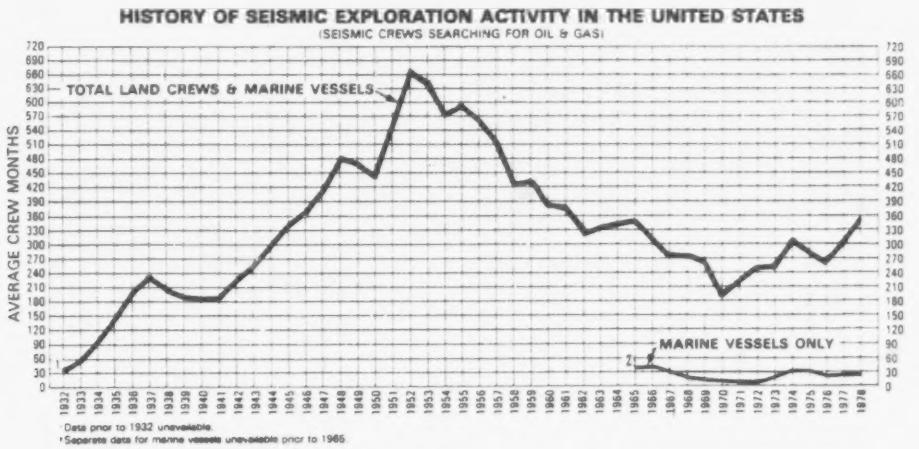
CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

October, 1979 (September figures in parentheses)

	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
22 Contractors:	45 (45)	1 (2)
3 Oil Companies:	3 (3)	1 (1)
Totals:	48 (48)	2 (3)


CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT
The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.
TOTAL LAND AND MARINE
TOTAL LAND CREWS AND MARINE VESSELS
1976
1977
1978
1979
*The normal "spring break" for ground thaw explains the decline in Canadian crew activity during April.

SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was organized in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy. Both the U.S. and the international surveys are financed by a grant from the International Association of Geophysical Contractors.


HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION ACTIVITY IN THE UNITED STATES
(SEISMIC CREWS SEARCHING FOR OIL & GAS)
AVERAGE CREW MONTHS
TOTAL LAND CREWS & MARINE VESSELS
MARINE VESSELS ONLY
*Data prior to 1932 unavailable.
†Separate data for marine vessels unavailable prior to 1966.

DAVID L. YOWELL
Assistant Executive Director